

# TVERC Training Programme 2018



## Would you like to volunteer to help survey habitats or species in Oxfordshire and Berkshire but lack the skills?

TVERC is running three training courses this year to help train volunteers to improve their identification and recording skills. These courses are run by expert ecologists and are aimed at beginners. Tea and coffee are provided on all the courses but you will need to bring your own lunch.

**Prices: £60 individual / £120 professional / £30 student\***

**\*There are limited student places available on each course, given on a first come first served basis. Proof of student status will be required at time of booking.**

### **INTRODUCTION TO BIRD SURVEY TECHNIQUES** **TRAINER: CAROLINE COLEMAN**

**Sat 21st April 9am-3pm**  
BBOWT Chimney Meadows

The course will provide an overview of some of the approaches taken whilst monitoring birds. It is intended for people with some identification skills who have limited experience of surveys and want to widen their knowledge. You will learn about Breeding Bird Surveys and territory mapping as well as looking at a variety of other approaches.

Bring suitable outdoor clothing and footwear, binoculars (if you have them), notepad and pencil.

For the outdoor sessions we will aim to practise some of the techniques that have been covered. This short course will provide brief information covering a variety of survey techniques. It will not go into detail about bird identification or legislation.

### **INTRODUCTION TO GIS** **TRAINER: DR DAN CARPENTER**

**Sat 9th June 10am-4pm**  
Thatcham Nature Discovery Centre

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are systems for storing, managing and analysing spatial data. This course is designed to introduce you to GIS and spatial data and enable you to display, manipulate and interrogate spatial data. You will learn about different types of spatial data, how to create simple maps, how to create and edit spatial data and how to carry out some simple analytical tasks.

Participants will need to bring their own laptop with a copy of QGIS (which is freely available) already installed on it.

This course is ideal for students and biological recorders looking for a basic introduction to GIS. This course will use the free open source QGIS system. A full set of course notes and course data will be provided.

If you do not have a laptop, please contact us in advance as we have a very limited supply of laptops for this course.

### **OTTER ECOLOGY AND SURVEYING** **TRAINER: DR ELLEN LEE**

**Sat 15th September 10am-4pm**  
RSPB Office, Beckley  
and Otmoor Nature Reserve

Introduction to the ecology of otters, covering their distribution, diet and behaviour. You will learn about key field signs to look out for and the methods used to survey for otters.

RSPB Office in Beckley for morning session. In afternoon short drive to Otmoor Nature Reserve.

The outdoor session will include a walk at Otmoor Nature Reserve looking for signs of otters.

Bring suitable outdoor clothing and footwear.

**PLACES ARE LIMITED SO BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL**

[www.tverc.org/cms/content/tverc-training](http://www.tverc.org/cms/content/tverc-training)